

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.115  
Application No. 08/320,273

*B3*  
96.0 vol%.

Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

At page 26, line 6, delete "means" and insert --use--.

line 14, delete "how" and insert --low--.

REMARKS

The present invention relates to a multiple stage semi-permeable membrane process and apparatus for gas separation.

In the Office Action dated May 31, 1995, claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph with respect to various recitations in certain of the claims as discussed by the Examiner at pages 2-3 of the Office Action, and claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The Examiner noted that claims 1-11 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the §112 rejections, and the Examiner additionally noted that the specification should be checked for errors and the Examiner noted a change in phraseology that should be made in the Abstract of the Disclosure. Also, in the cover page of the Office Action, reference was made to a "Preliminary Amendment A" dated October 11, 1994 as having been received and entered; it is understood that the

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Examiner refers to the insertion before the first line of the specification the sentence identifying the present application as a continuation-in-part application of Application No. 08/124,577. Lastly, a Form PTO-948 was attached to the Office Action, noting certain minor informalities in the drawings; corrected drawings will be submitted after receipt of a Notice of Allowability.

Turning to the merits, claim 12 has been canceled, thus obviating the only prior art rejection.

In view of the number of points that the Examiner raised with respect to the §112 rejection, the undersigned attorney conducted telephone discussions with the Examiner on August 9, 1995, in order to attempt to resolve all issues fully, and amend the claims to a form that would place the application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner's helpful comments in this regard are appreciated.

*No interview  
on the merits.  
Did PTO-948  
to overcome the  
§112 rejection &  
per the Office  
action - RWS  
8/22/95*

Accordingly, various amendments have been made to the specification, the claims, and the Abstract, as indicated above. Based thereon, it is respectfully submitted that all of remaining amended claims 1-11 are now fully in compliance with all requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, and in fact are in condition for immediate allowance. Similarly, minor amendments have been made to

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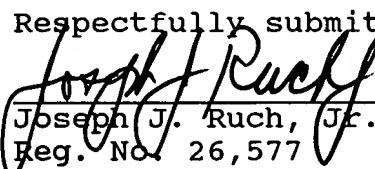
the specification in accordance with the discussions with the Examiner, including an amended recitation at page 18 with respect to the embodiments of original claims 6 and 8, and the Abstract has been amended responsive to the Examiner's comments.

Accordingly, allowance of remaining claims 1-11 is now submitted to be proper.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may facilitate the further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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